

Position Title: **Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist**
Reports to: Artistic Director



Position Summary: The Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist of the Texas Boys Choir is responsible for providing the highest quality music experience and training by facilitating positive individual, family, and community growth through guidance and role modeling. In addition to assisting the Artistic Director with the development and administration of the Texas Boys Choir's artistic programs, the Associate Artistic Director serves as a member of the faculty of Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts, conducting ensembles, teaching courses, and accompanying for Texas Boys Choir as scheduled. In collaboration with other faculty and administration, the Associate Artistic Director will support the school's mission through repertoire selection and curriculum development in alignment with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and the National Core Arts Standards.

Position Profile: Texas Boys Choir seeks an Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist who will continue to build upon our legacy of excellence in providing any boy, regardless of socioeconomic or ethnic background, a structured environment in which to learn the fundamentals of world-class vocal performance. The Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist will teach, challenge, and inspire boychoir members artistically and academically. Unique in its environment, Texas Boys Choir members attend school at Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts, a public charter school that enrolls talented students by audition. The boys receive daily training and direction in musicianship, vocal technique, choral collaboration, performing for and engaging with an audience, and self-discipline. Music history and theory are also woven into the curriculum, to ensure that each boy increases his cultural and musical literacy.

Texas Boys Choir consists of a Training Choir of boys in grades 3-4 who learn choral repertoire for performance while receiving rigorous training in aural skills, sight-reading, and vocal technique; a Skills Class of boys in grades 5-6 who benefit from additional, partially individualized attention in certain areas of their music education before advancing to Tour Choir; and a Tour Choir consisting of a Treble Ensemble of boys in grades 5-8 and a Men's Ensemble of boys in grades 9-12 which rehearse and perform separately as well as together as a mixed choir. Mid-year voice changes are a frequent occurrence in a boychoir, requiring the artistic staff to be sensitive to the physiology, emotions, and wellbeing of singers as their voices evolve. The Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist will join the Artistic Director in the ongoing assessment process of individual singers and participate in auditions and re-auditions for all ensembles.

The Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist will serve as lead conductor of the Training Choir. He/she will select diverse repertoire for the Training Choir, to include sacred and secular choral works from all historical periods, music specifically written for boychoirs, and music that explores the world's cultures. He/she should be dedicated to programming that is vibrant, diverse, complex, and interesting, and that expands the academic, cultural and artistic horizons of singers and audiences alike. In addition to exposing our communities to choral masterpieces, the organization also seeks to engage its audiences and share a love for choral music in all its forms.

The Associate Artistic Director & Principal Accompanist must be strategic-minded, detail-oriented, self-aware, and flexible, with a sense of humor, strong work ethic, and a passion for collaboration. While strengthening partnerships internally with fine arts programs and externally with arts and community organizations, Texas Boys Choir seeks to launch satellite after-school programs throughout the region in the future, and the Associate Artistic Director will play a key role in this initiative.

Essential Job Functions:

- Serve as lead conductor/instructor for daily Training Choir rehearsal and Skills class for boys in grades 3-6
- Accompany daily Tour Choir rehearsals and music classes for boys in grades 5-12, including occasionally

- serving as substitute conductor in the Artistic Director's absence
- Create and implement effective lesson plans that promote the highest levels of skill development in choral singing and musicianship, as well as music history, theory, and composition
 - Prepare and lead students in concerts and events, on campus, in the community, and abroad
 - Collaborate with other faculty to create curriculum, select appropriate repertoire, and design creative learning opportunities for students
 - Attend staff meetings and professional development workshops as require
 - Serve as Academic Supervisor for all boys in Texas Boys Choir, reviewing their grades in all of their courses on a regular basis, communicating with students and teachers about areas of concern, and enforcing Texas Boys Choir's mandatory afterschool homework/tutoring policy as needed
 - Create and maintain positive communication with administration, staff, faculty, students, and parents
 - Provide support to the Artistic Director, assuming responsibility for administrative projects and responsibilities as delegated or assigned

Essential Job Requirements:

- Education – Bachelor's degree required with a concentration in Music or Music Education; Master's degree preferred; Teacher certification or highly qualified designation desired
- Experience – Minimum of five years' experience teaching music at the Elementary and/or Middle School levels required; Eight or more years' experience conducting choirs preferred; limited conducting experience taken into consideration with required teaching and accompanying experience
- Required Skills and Capabilities – fine artistic skills as vocalist, choral director/conductor, and choral accompanist; strong music theory background; experience using Kodály method and Orff approach; strong classroom management skills; ability to work collaboratively with a diverse team; excellent verbal and written communication; significant evening/weekend commitments for performances and other special events, as well as regional, national, and international travel for touring activities
- Preferred Skills and Capabilities – proven experience collaborating with others to develop interdisciplinary artistic products; experience or background in choral choreography
- Physical Requirements – ability to carry up to 25 lbs.; valid driver license

Position Category: 12-month contract, exempt, full-time

Preferred Start Date: August 1, 2018

Application Deadline: Open until filled

An Equal Opportunity Employer

To apply: Please send the following materials to the attention of Catherine Doyle, Production & Operations Manager, Texas Boys Choir, at Catherine.Doyle@TexasBoysChoir.org:

- Resume
- Cover letter
- A list of three professional references
- A link to video or audio of the applicant accompanying a choral rehearsal or performance (5 minutes or more)
- A link to video of the applicant conducting a choral rehearsal (10-15 minutes)